

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-47. (Cancelled)

48. (New) An implant to be implanted between adjacent first and second spinous processes, the implant comprising:

 a planar unitary body having a first end, a second end, and opposed sides extending therebetween;

 a first leg extending from the first end along the second side;

 a second leg extending from the second end along the first side;

 a first saddle disposed at the first end between the first leg and the first side so as to receive the first spinous process when the implant is implanted;

 a second saddle disposed at the second end between the second leg and the second side so as to receive the second spinous process when implanted;

 a first fastener coupled with the first saddle so as to secure the first spinous process to the first saddle;

 a second fastener coupled with the second saddle so as to secure the second spinous process to the second saddle.

49. (New) The implant of claim 48 wherein said first fastener is separate from said second fastener.

50. (New) The implant of claim 48 wherein at least one of the first or second fasteners comprises a tether.

51. (New) The implant of claim 49, the first and second spinous processes being adjacent spinous processes, wherein the planar body, when implanted, extends in compression between the first spinous process at the first end and the second spinous process at the second end so as to distract the adjacent spinous processes.

52. (New) An interspinous process implant between a first spinous process and a second spinous process, the implant comprising:

planar unitary body having a first end that defines a first saddle and a second end that defines a second saddle;

a first tether coupleable with the first saddle so as to surround the first spinous process when the first saddle receives the first spinous process;

a second tether coupled with the second saddle so as to surround the second spinous process when the second saddle receives the second spinous process and the planar body extends between and separates the spinous processes.

53. (New) The implant of claim 52 wherein the first tether is configured to retain the first spinous process relative to the first saddle and the second tether is configured to retain the second spinous process relative to the second saddle.

54. (New) The implant according to claim 52, said first saddle further defined between a first leg and a first side of the planar body and said second saddle further defined between a second leg and second side of the planar body wherein the first tether is associated with the first leg and the first side of the planar body and the second tether is associated with the second leg and the second side of the planar body.

55. (New) An interspinous process implant comprising:

a unitary central planar body with first and second saddles located on opposite sides of the planar body and configured to receive adjacent spinous processes, the interspinous process implant having at least one tether secured to at least one saddle so as to retain the

interspinous process implant between the interspinous processes and maintain separation between the interspinous processes.

56. (New) The implant of claim 55 wherein the planar body is configured to distract the adjacent spinous processes.

57. (New) An implant for relieving pain associated with a spine, comprising:
a unitary planar body having a continuous surface positionable between two adjacent spinous processes, the planar body having a first end and a second end;

the first end of the planar body defining a first saddle configured to receive the first spinous process;

the second end of the planar body defining a second saddle configured to receive the second spinous process;

a first fastener associated with the first saddle so as to retain the first spinous process in the first saddle;

a second fastener associated with the second saddle so as to retain the second spinous process in the second saddle.

58. (New) The implant of claim 57, wherein the first saddle is associated with a first leg and first side of the planar body and the second saddle is associated with a second leg and a second side of the planar body.

59. (New) The implant of claim 57, wherein said first fastener is secured through a first bore in the first leg and is securable to the first side of the planar body and said second fastener is secured through a second bore in the second leg and is securable to the second side of the planar body.